

REMARKS

The present invention is an electronic bulletin board system, a wireless family bulletin board, a method of accessing a family bulletin board, a system for providing notice board service and communication services in a computer network and a system for providing a group of portable wireless user terminals with a notice board service and a communication connection to the network including information management services and user services in the network . An embodiment of an electronic bulletin board system in accordance with the invention includes a plurality of wireless devices 20, 20a,-20c; an access point 22 and 42 in wireless communication with said wireless devices and a server 28 connected to said access point. The wireless devices are connected to the server through the access point in order to obtain the bulletin board data therefrom. Each of the plurality of the wireless devices has equal access to the bulletin board data. The wireless devices form a family or group with each family or group including a unique identification (ID) reserved and used to recognize wireless devices belonging to the group. See page 6, lines 15-22 through page 7, lines 1-16 of the Specification for a discussion of operation of a terminal after it has been authenticated including each terminal having a unique ID which is used by members of the group with each unique identification of the terminals being recognized in the server used by the wireless devices of the group.

Each of the claims stands rejected on grounds of anticipation or obviousness with claims 1-3, 5, 11, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 24-26 being rejected as being anticipated

by USP 6,496,849 (Hanson et al) or on grounds of obviousness of Hanson in view of other prior art. These grounds of rejection are traversed for the following reasons.

Each of the independent claims substantively recites, *inter alia*, a plurality of wireless devices belonging to a family or group, a server providing bulletin board or notice board service which is connected to the wireless devices and the wireless devices each include a unique identification (ID) reserved and used by the server to recognize the wireless devices belonging to the group or family. This permits each member of the group to use the same terminal which obtains access through a server to both the bulletin or notice board service and further to have access to the Internet. See the first paragraph on page 7, of the Specification. This subject matter has no counterpart in Hanson.

The Examiner relies upon column 9, lines 8-11 for a teaching of each participant having a network address which is used to recognize devices belonging to the group. However, each of the independent claims recites that the recognition is performed by the server. The referenced portion of column 9 merely suggests that when an electronic form is created and sent to the server, the server then sends the form as an email message to participants to notify the participants that a "zaplet process has been initiated". It is clear that the server 6 is performing nothing more than forwarding information via email which does not meet the limitation that each of the devices include a unique identification reserved and used by the server to recognize wireless devices belonging to the group. Accordingly, the subject matter of the independent claims is not anticipated by Hanson et al.

It is noted that the rejection of the claims on grounds of obviousness has been predicated upon Hanson et al in view of one or more other prior art references. However, it is submitted that the other prior art references relied upon in the rejection of the claims on grounds of obviousness do not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Hanson et al.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks it is submitted that each of the claims in the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (referencing attorney docket no. 0171.38962X00).

Respectfully submitted,
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP


Donald E. Stout
Reg. No. 26,422

DES/dks
(703) 312-6600
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